

'Iran will not spare U.S. ships'

LONDON (R) — A senior Iranian official said in Tehran on Friday that Iran would not hesitate to attack U.S. ships in the Gulf, the official Iranian news agency (IRNA) reported. IRNA quoted Chief Justice Abdul Karim Musavi Ardebili as saying Iranian forces "might have hesitated to attack Kuwaiti ships because of Kuwait's proximity with Iran. But they will in no way do so in attacking U.S. ships." The agency said he was addressing a Friday prayers' meeting in the Iranian capital. Mr. Ardebili made his remarks less than a day after U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy ended a tour of seven Gulf Arab states, including Iraq (See story below). The U.S. navy maintains at least five warships in the Gulf under the flag of America's Middle East force and it often has a carrier-led battlegroup on station outside the waterway. Mr. Ardebili, quoted by IRNA, said Iran would not bargain away its demand that the war would continue until the Iraqi government was overthrown.

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Syria denies reports of coup bid

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria on Friday officially denied published reports of an attempt to topple the Syrian government of President Hafez Al Assad. An official spokesman, in a brief statement, said: "No Syrian national, including senior officials, has heard of such an attempt except from some zionist Western media. When we hear such reports we respond to them with ridicule." The news agency France Presse, quoting Arab diplomatic sources in Paris, said on Wednesday a coup had been prepared by nearly 80 air-force pilots from a barracks north of Damascus and that 40 of them had already been executed.

PLO enlarges Central Council

TUNIS (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leadership has approved formation of a 93-member council to act as a steering group while the movement's parliament-in-exile is not in session, a PLO spokesman said. Ahmed Abdul Rahman said the PLO's 15-member Executive Committee, which has been meeting here since Wednesday night, took the decision Thursday night. The enlarged Central Council which includes all executive committee members, numbered just over 70 before a meeting in Algiers last month of the Palestine National Council (PNC). Its new members include individual Syrian-based factions. The executive committee, due to continue meeting Friday, also decided to send a delegation to Libya this weekend headed by Foreign Affairs Spokesman Farouk Kaddoumi. Abdul Rahman said: "The delegation would discuss a Libya decision earlier this month to reopen PLO offices in Tripoli, which were closed in 1983."

Live-donor transplants performed in U.K.

LONDON (R) — Two women with lung problems were given new hearts and lungs while giving their own healthy hearts to other patients in live-donor transplant operations here. A team of doctors, led by transplant pioneer Magdi Yacoub performed the operations at Harefield hospital near London, the hospital said. The healthy hearts were given to a man and a woman suffering from cardiopulmonary diseases. The operations were carried out at end of April and the first week of May. Experts have found that a lung patient's chances of survival improve if the heart is replaced along with the defective organ instead of implanting new lungs alone.

550 suspects arrested in Punjab

CHANDIGARH (R) — Police in North India's Punjab state have arrested more than 550 suspects in a crackdown on Sikh extremists, most submitting meekly to officers under direct control of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government. Punjab police chief Jitendra Singh told Reuters he had issued a list of 600-700 suspects wanted under India's anti-terrorist act. Reports said that more than 550 suspects had been arrested since direct president's rule had been imposed by Mr. Gandhi on Monday.

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King says Damascus talks deepened common outlook

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein returned home early Friday from Damascus, the third Arab capital he has visited this week, saying his talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad deepened the two countries' common outlook.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, described the talks as a "clarification of Arab air." They covered efforts to bolster Arab solidarity and to convene an international Middle East peace conference, it added.

The King held similar talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein when he visited Cairo on Tuesday and Baghdad on Wednesday.

In a message he sent to President Assad upon his return home, the King said:

"Our brotherly meeting and talks once again stressed the im-

portance and usefulness of coordination and joint work between our two countries, based on our clear vision and national obligation in dealing with various challenges facing our Arab Homeland."

He said the meeting "deepened our common outlook for unifying ranks and positions in order to be able to respond to our nations' expectations and serve our causes."

The King and President Assad held two closed door sessions at the presidential palace in Damascus and the talks dealt mainly with ending differences among

Peres lobbies U.S. Jewish leaders; Shamir fortifies stand in Knesset

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres was meeting American Jewish leaders on Friday to rally support for his plan for an international Middle East peace conference that would include the Soviet Union.

The plan has divided Jewish leaders here and in Israel.

Mr. Peres arrived in New York on a dawn flight to start a four-day effort in New York and Washington to win backing for the peace conference that has split Israel's coalition government.

The foreign minister will meet U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz on Saturday in New York and on Sunday and Monday in Washington in efforts to keep alive the peace conference idea.

Lebanese Foreign Ministry official arrives

AMMAN (J.T.) — Lebanese Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Fouad Al Turk arrived here Friday on a three-day official visit during which he will hold talks with senior Jordanian officials and address the World Affairs Council (WAC) in Amman on the Lebanese problem.

Mr. Turk's talks here are expected to cover bilateral relations as well as the situation in Lebanon, informed sources said. He will address the WAC Saturday night.

Mr. Turk's visit to Amman comes amid a continuing government crisis in Lebanon after Prime Minister Rashid Karami announced on Monday that he was resigning because of his "national unity" government's failure to tackle economic problems and find a solution to the 12-year-old civil war.

Polish police storm bus and capture hijacker

WARSAW (AP) — Polish police on Friday stormed a bus seized by a man demanding to be flown to the West, captured the hijacker and freed seven hostages, witnesses said.

The man, who was armed with a hand-grenade, had commanded the bus about four hours earlier.

Several people on the bus were seen being taken away in ambulances. It was not immediately known if they had been injured in the hijacking incident.

An AP report at the scene said police charged the bus on the tarmac of Warsaw airport's domestic terminal at 3:55 p.m. The raid took three to four minutes.

The hijacker had demanded a plane to be flown to West Berlin. Witnesses described him as a Polish man about 18 or 19 years old.

A lot Polish airlines spokesman said he had a hand-grenade.

In a separate development, state-run Warsaw Radio reported that two men tried unsuccessfully to hijack a light plane.

Warsaw Radio said the pilot of the plane foiled the hijack.

President Amin Gemayel sent three envoys to Damascus on Thursday for talks with Syrian officials on the government crisis and proposed reforms. The three envoys — former Foreign Minister Elie Saleh, army intelligence chief Simon Qassis and lawyer Nicholas Nasr — returned to Beirut Thursday evening. No details were available on the outcome of their talks but Beirut newspapers expected that the talks were to decide the fate of the government.

A source close to the envoys was quoted as saying by Reuter on Thursday they were expected to return to Damascus only after Mr. Gemayel begins consultations to form a new government. It was not clear whether the Maronite Christian president had decided to accept the resignation of Mr. Karami.

During a question-and-answer session with non-Washington editors and broadcasters, Mr. Reagan also said he had trouble remembering that I don't recall ever anything being suggested in the line of ransom.

He said his administration was constantly seeking ways to win the release of the hostages. "It is possible that what we were talking about was the use of money to pay people... who could effect a rescue of our people there but I have never thought of that as ransom," he said, adding, "I would suggest that never would it be termed ransom."

The president also declared anew that he was unaware of the alleged diversion of funds from arms sales to Iran to the contra rebels in Nicaragua.

Mr. Reagan also said he had seen no evidence that I've been mortally wounded by the Iranian contra affair and that Americans do not seem to be unhappy about that we've been doing here.

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Israelis detain scores of Arabs

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Israeli army reported the arrest on Friday of a number of Palestinians alleged to be responsible for five petrol bomb attacks against Israeli vehicles in the Qalkilya area of the occupied West Bank.

The talks were preceded by enlarged meetings attended by officials from both sides. The Jordanian side was represented by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

The Syrian side comprised of Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam, Vice-President Mohammad Mashara, Prime Minister Abdul Raouf Al Kasm and Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa. The talks were followed by an iftar banquet hosted by President Assad in honour of the King and the Jordanian delegation.

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Kidnappers' videotape shows U.S. hostage alive after 6 weeks

BEIRUT (R) — A video tape released by an underground Muslim group in Beirut shows U.S. hostage Alann Steen alive and links his fate and that of three fellow academics to 400 Arabs held in Israeli jails.

The tape, sent to Beirut's An Nahar newspaper Thursday by the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine, showed Steen in apparent good health, relaxed and wearing a navy blue t-shirt.

"Remember that our issue will always be related to the release of the prisoners in the prisons of Israel which is occupying the land of Palestine," the 47-year-old communications professor said.

It was the first evidence in six weeks that Steen was alive, after his captors had released a statement and two earlier films describing his health as critical.

Steen was kidnapped along with American professors Robert Polhill, 53, Jesse Turner, 39 and their Indian colleague Mithileshwar Singh, 60, on Jan. 24 in mainly Muslim west Beirut.

In the last video tape, issued in the Lebanese capital on April 2, Turner said Steen was gravely ill and dying.

The clandestine hostage-takers say they want 400 Arabs freed in exchange for the captives. Israel has dismissed the demand and Washington says it will not pressure Israel into making a deal with

what it calls "terrorists."

The latest tape appeared four days after a report in the U.S. magazine Newsweek that Washington had adopted a tougher no-negotiation stance on hostages. Newsweek said hostages no longer had political value and therefore there would be nothing to negotiate.

The following day, former U.S. National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane told a congressional hearing that he was forced to "play God" and choose an American hostage in September 1985 for release in exchange for U.S. arms to Iran.

He had chosen U.S. official William Buckley, but clergymen Benjamin Weis, kidnapped in May, 1984, was freed instead. It turned out that Mr. Buckley had died in captivity about three months before McFarlane made the choice.

A total of 78 foreigners have been abducted in Lebanon since January, 1984. Of these, 39 have been freed, four escaped, one was rescued and six were reported killed.

The four academics are among

28 foreigners still missing in Lebanon, several of whom are reported held in Beirut's mainly Shi'ite Muslim suburbs by pro-Iranian militants.

Those still missing include nine Americans, seven French nationals, three Iranians, three Britons, two Germans, an Italian, an Irishman, a South Korean and Mithileshwar Singh.

In Thursday's tape, Steen said his captors had saved his life by their "huge" efforts and he accused Washington of exploiting the plight of the hostages for political ends.

"Once again I show up as a witness who is still alive, a witness that was thrown by American officials with his people into this trouble," he added, apparently from a prepared text.

In Washington, the Reagan administration Thursday denied it had abandoned the eight American hostages held by pro-Iranian groups in Beirut.

"We have not abandoned the hostages. We still care deeply about their fate," State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley told reporters.

"I feel confident in denying any allegation that we have abandoned them."

The Iran-contra inquiry was told Thursday that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) gave \$50,000 toward a scheme to ransom two American hostages in Lebanon for \$1 million each.

Senator Paul Tsongas made the disclosure in questioning Mr. McFarlane.

Mr. McFarlane told the congressional inquiry that the CIA had not been involved in the aborted ransom scheme, planned during 1983 and 1986 by agents of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

Sen. Tsongas said the inquiry staff had been told that "the CIA was, in fact, involved and that it spent some \$50,000 to provide financial assistance to the operation."

Mr. McFarlane said he had not been aware of this.

On Monday Mr. McFarlane said the scheme called for a ransom of \$1 million apiece for two U.S. hostages.

Investigators said the funds were put up by Texas billionaire H. Ross Perot.

The plan was first alluded to last week in testimony by the panel's first witness, retired Maj.-Gen. Richard Secord, who played a key role in the sale of weapons to Iran and the funneling of some of the proceeds and private donations to Nicaragua's "contra" rebels.

Gen. Secord also said he was involved in other clandestine operations — including the hostage scheme.

Iran contends its revolution is spreading

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iran's prime minister has contended that Egypt's expulsion of Iranian diplomats was prompted by fear of an Islamic revolution.

The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said Friday Hussein Musavi made the remark Thursday, the day the Egyptian Foreign Ministry announced a complete break with Iran, including the expulsion of two Iranian diplomats.

The two Iranians apparently were suspected of maintaining contacts with Egyptian extremists opposed to the government.

Iran's Islamic fundamentalist government of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini has denied the charge.

Woman held over alleged plot to gas Nicosia

NICOSIA (R) — A sister of one of four people held in London in connection with a threat to release deadly dioxin gas over Nicosia has been detained in Cyprus, officials said Friday.

Theckla Andrea Hallouma, 21, was arrested for suspected extortion, they told a news conference.

British police Thursday arrested Panos Kouparis, 36, his wife and Hallouma's sister Kyriakoula, 28, and his brothers Jason, 18, and Andreas, 23.

The arrests followed a six-week operation between British and Cypriot police after a group calling itself Force Majeure demanded \$15 million from the Cyprus government.

It said that unless the money

was paid it would release dioxin gas from hills south of Nicosia so that it would drift over the Cypriot capital.

Dioxin is said to be 1,000 times more toxic than cyanide. Small doses cause skin complaints and larger amounts damage the heart, liver and central nervous system.

It polluted thousands of acres (hectares) of land and forced hundreds of people from their homes when it was released in an explosion at Seveso, Italy, in 1976.

No dioxin has been found in Cyprus but investigations are continuing. Police sources said the group had marked maps with positions for placing gas canisters.

The threat was first made in a letter to President Spyros Kyprianou signed by "Commander Nemo" who styled himself the leader of Force Majeure.

Cyprus Police Chief Frixios Yiannou told the news conference that he flew to London at the end of March to seek the advice of Scotland Yard.

British and Cypriot police concluded that the threat was real and set up a joint operation codenamed "Drifter" to trap the blackmailers.

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Hamzeh visits Poland after WHA meeting

WARSAW (Petra) — The Polish deputy prime minister for health affairs received here Friday Health Minister and President of the Jordan Medical Council (JMC) Dr. Zaid Hamzeh and an accompanying delegation.

During the meeting, attended by the Polish health minister, the general framework for health cooperation between the two countries were reviewed. The Jordanian and Polish sides later held a meeting in Warsaw under the chairmanship of the health ministers of the two countries during which they discussed implementation of an agreement for health and medical cooperation signed between the two countries.

Dr. Hamzeh arrived in Warsaw after attending the World Health Assembly (WHA) meetings held in Geneva. Dr. Hamzeh is the WHA president for the present term.

WHA condemns Israel

In Geneva, the WHA passed a resolution Thursday blaming Israel for the deteriorating health

conditions in the occupied territories and thanking the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) for its contribution towards improving the health condition there.

The resolution also called on the Israeli authorities to grant permission to a WHA expert team, entrusted with studying health conditions in the occupied Arab territories in preparation for submitting a report to the assembly, to visit the occupied Arab territories and inspect the health conditions there.

The WHA also elected Jordan to membership of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Executive Board. The WHA has called on the WHO member states to provide information about the manpower imbalance in the health sector in order to find solutions, by providing the necessary personnel.

It also called on the WHA director general to pursue his efforts in the field of research on the impact of nuclear war on health.

Kuwait fund to loan

JD 4.3m for Aqaba road

AMMAN (Agencies) — Jordan will receive a JD 4.3 million loan from the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) to help finance the construction of an important road in the Aqaba region, according to an agreement signed in Amman on Thursday.

The project includes the construction of a 26-kilometre road in the Aqaba coast, connecting Wadi Al Yitem to the coastal road in the vicinity of the industrial area in the south of Aqaba.

The scheme also includes the construction of a 6.2-kilometre road connection with the container terminal and four interconnections, in addition to flood protection works, bridges and drainage facilities.

The loan, which carried an annual interest rate of three per cent plus 0.5 per cent for administrative charges, is repayable in 19 years, including a three-year grace period.

The loan from KFAED will

cover nearly 42 per cent of the total cost of the road, according to Ministry of Planning officials. They said that the whole project, which will be completed in the second quarter of 1989, is bound to stimulate economic activity in the region and also reduce the risk of pollution.

The agreement was signed by Minister of Planning Dr. Tamer Kanaan and Mr. Bader Mishari Al-Humeidi, KFAED director.

Mr. Mishari was later received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan with whom he reviewed Kuwaiti-Jordanian economic cooperation and the KFAED's role in financing projects. Mr. Humeidi was requested to convey Prince Hassan's greetings to Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, prime minister of Kuwait.

The KFAED, which was founded in 1961, provides financial assistance to Arab and other developing countries on behalf of the Kuwaiti government.

Sensible eating is key to avoid health problem during Ramadan

By Najwa Najar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN: Ramadan indulgence poses a health hazard for many Muslims fasting during this holy month. Over 90 per cent of the Jordanian population observe the traditional fast from dawn to dusk, taking no food or water. However, once the canon is fired at sunset, an excess of rich foods is "dumped" into an empty stomach causing digestive disturbances.

In a limited survey conducted by the Jordan Times, it was discovered that the larger hospitals in Amman receive a higher number of abdominal and gastrointestinal emergency cases during the month of Ramadan.

Dr. Waleed Ma'ani, a professor of neurology at the University of Jordan, who also runs the emergency room at the University Hospital, said "from 12.00-4.00 a.m., we get 40 patients, complaining of abdominal and gastrointestinal pains. This figure makes up 50 per cent of the number of patients we get all day; usually digestive disturbances make up only 12 per cent of the cases received by the hospital's emergency room." Dr. Ma'ani said.

An additional 10 to 15 patients suffering from the same problem come to the Palestine Liberation Organisation Hospital daily, said Dr. Imad Khalid Mahrouq, head of the emergency room.

The abdominal and gastrointestinal pains are mostly a result of overeating and eating quickly, according to Dr. Jawad Khalaf, a cardiologist with a private clinic in Amman. "A lot of food at one time irritates the stomach and the intestines, and can cause heartburn, constipation and swelling of the abdomen."

Bonn and London at odds

(Continued from page 1)

held by West Germany but whose nuclear warheads are under U.S. control.

With the NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) still divided on shorter-range missiles, the 14 alliance defence ministers meeting in the Norwegian city of Stavanger glossed over the issue in a closed communiqué.

The document said merely that appropriate global constraints on shorter-range missile systems

had pledged to back restrictive legislation defining who is a Jew in exchange for support from the Sephardi Torah Guardians (Shas), which represents mainly Eastern ultra-orthodox Jews.

Mr. Peretz resigned from the cabinet in January rather than obey a supreme court order to register as a Jew an immigrant converted to Judaism by a reform rabbi in the United States.

Likud and Labour have been wooing Shas since the cabinet split on Wednesday.

Mr. Shamir is totally opposed to an international conference.

Asked Friday if he thought the conference plan was now dead, he said: "I hope so, I hope that from our point of view there will not convene such a conference."

Mr. Peres, in an interview in Friday's Washington Post, said he saw no chance for compromise

Much of Mr. Peres' itinerary is described as "private meetings" on which Israeli officials refused to elaborate.



PRINCE HASSAN ATTENDS PRAYERS: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan attends Friday's prayers at Hamza Bin Abdul Muttaleb Mosque in Amman. Attending the prayer with the Crown Prince were Minister of Higher Education Dr. Nasseruddin Al Assad, Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh, Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Al Annin, the Kingdom's general mufti and a number of other officials. Prince Hassan listened to Friday's sermon on the Bader battle and its significance for Islamic history (Petra photo).

Ministry to build 40 schools with U.S. grant

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Education has embarked on a JD 12 million project for building 40 compulsory schools in the Kingdom within its third educational programme.

The cornerstone of one of these schools at Umm Al Hir district was laid by the under-secretary of the Ministry of Public Works Khalaf Al Hawwari at a ceremony held on Thursday and attended by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) director in Jordan, Mr. Lewis P. Reade, as well as other officials from the Ministries of Education and Public Works.

Mr. Hawwari said that tenders for 38 of these schools have been already awarded to contractors and work on preparing documents and designs for the remaining schools is under way. Work on building 25 schools will start in the coming weeks, Mr. Hawwari said.

The project is being financed through a \$30 million grant from USAID, according to a USAID press release. The sites for the new schools were jointly selected by the ministry and USAID. The schools will be provided with furniture, laboratories,

workshops and libraries as well as meeting halls and other basic utilities.

Each of the schools to be built within this programme will be three floors and will have a total of 3,000 square metres and capable of seating 100 students. There will be a total of 1,200 classrooms when the project has been completed, Mr. Hawwari pointed out.

Mr. Hawwari noted that these schools will be built in Amman, Sahab, Salt, Ruseifa, Khrebet Al Souq, Zarqa, Irbid, Mafraq, Ramtha, Huwara, Eidoun, Bushra, Tibneh, Kufrunjeh, Damiach, Kuf Awan, Souf Bal'a, Madaba, Ain Al Baida, Ma'in, Russeiniyah, Tafleeh, Wadi Mousa, Ma'an and Aqaba.

The Ministry of Public Works will take complete supervision of the construction work whose designs were prepared by local engineering firms and whose work will be carried out by local contracting companies, employing locally produced building materials and Jordanian manpower. Mr. Hawwari said: "The whole project will be said to be completed by the end of 1988."

However, he said that the number of citizens who were registered as voters throughout the governorate until Wednesday closing time were put at 36,159.

In accordance with the 1986 electoral law, the governorate is given nine seats in the forthcoming 142-member Lower House of Parliament.

Under the government's seat-allocation arrangement in the Kingdom's electoral law, four seats are allocated for the governorate, and four others for the districts of southern Mazar, At Qaseer, Aie and Ghour Al Safi.

Registration at 80 per cent in Karak

AMMAN (Petra) — Eighty per cent of the Karak Governorate's eligible voters have registered their names at the area's various committees for voters registration for the impending parliamentary elections, according to Karak Governor Salem Al Oudah.

The governor said on Friday that voters registration here has witnessed a "welcome increase" in turnout since registration started on May 3.

Mr. Oudah did not give an estimate figure on the number of citizens who by Friday were registered at the governorate's various committees.

However, he said that the number of citizens who were registered as voters throughout the governorate until Wednesday closing time were put at 36,159.

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The statement indicated that a total of 148 of these accidents occurred in the Amman area alone with the rest taking place in Irbid, Zarqa, Aqaba, Baida, Balqa, Karak, Mafraq, Ma'an and Tafleeh.

A three-day pan-Arab symposium on preventing road accidents will be held on Nov. 3, 1987, under the theme of "toward pan-Arab action for prevention of road accidents."

Iftaa councils should give priority to community work — Crown Prince

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan chaired a joint meeting of the councils of preachers and Iftaa (Islamic casuistry) during which he urged his audience to work with the local communities in finding solutions to religious and social pressing problems.

Prince Hassan said, in speech to the joint meeting on Thursday, that preachers should be well versed on all matters relating to religion and society. He also said that the Sharia (Islamic law) faculty of the University of Jordan ought to help preachers widen their scope of knowledge and help resolve problems plauging to society.

Prince Hassan referred to contacts Jordan made with Iran before the outbreak of the Gulf war, calling for a dialogue among Islamic sects. The Iranians, he said, turned down the call be-

cause they said they were seeking means of spreading Iranian revolution's influence. He said that dialogue among various sects and ideologies in Islam is important in the endeavour to promote the Islamic Iftaa Council's work in the Kingdom.

Prince Hassan stressed the strong link between the preachers' work and education in schools. For this reason he noted, a full and detailed report on the educational system in Jordan has been prepared for the sake of drawing up a sound system that can cater to the needs of Jordanian youth and serve the future development of the country.

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VIEW FROM AMMAN

By Dr. Kamel S. Abu Jaber

Education: Policy proposal

UNLESS we develop the proper educational policy for the present and future, our youth, like ourselves, will continue to live outside the framework of their time. This sense of alienation from contemporary civilisation, if not arrested now, will further degenerate into other mental disorders: Schizophrenia, paranoia and eventually catatonia; a process of continued estrangement whereby the body may continue to function though unrelated to the universe surrounding it. Already we tend to feel alienated from contemporary civilisation not only because of the harsh treatment we have been receiving from the West but also because we continue to resist the inevitable; the necessary developments that will enable us to live in terms with the times. There is a great amount of beauty in our spiritual heritage and glorious past that should be preserved: but to continue, as we still do, to contrast what once was with our terrible present is only a prescription for further alienation.

We need to develop an educational policy that will feature the following set of principles by which it should truly develop the capacity to reconcile the past with the present: First, to preserve our vintage heritage not as a rigid idol or item of worship but to create an impetus for developing the mechanisms for controlling the contemporary world. Second, such a policy should abandon the covert and often overt notion that there is a conspiracy against the Arabs or Islam, however true such an idea may seem at times. Because we are who we are. Arabs and Muslims, and because our

civilisation has stood and continues to stand on equal footing with Western and other civilisations, even regarding itself superior, we will continue to be the object of the thinking of others whether in adversity, conspiracy or friendship. It should be a matter of pride not lamentation that others regard us as objects of serious thought; friends, or threats to security; particularly because since the advent of Islam and even prior to that we have stood on equal footing with Western civilisations: Interacting with them in peace and more often in violence. It is only natural that we be suspect to the same degree as we suspect others. Therefore, our educational policy must concentrate on building confidence in our ability to continue to stand up and not on the apologetics of fear and insecurity.

A third principle of our policy, which also emanates from the confidence building element, should be that we teach that knowledge has no frontiers, no boundaries, either physical or mental. Because of our insecurity and frustration, a strange psychology has developed amongst us, suspicious of any idea that crosses our frontiers disparagingly referred to as "imported thought," our youth, in fact our people are exhorted to stand against it in principle and without any evaluation or analysis of its content or worth. Ideas, good ones at any rate, have no boundaries and will not respect any frontiers. If they are good we need them and should welcome not fight them, regardless of their origin. Surely we must realise that if they are good, they will force

themselves upon us anyway. Instead of busying ourselves with trying to resist "imported" ideas, we should welcome them taking care to be intelligently selective in choosing which ones to adopt. How can we logically "import" the car, the television, the telephone, the computer while rejecting the reasoning the software, the ideological and conceptual infrastructure behind it?

Fourth, our educational policies should not be only present but future oriented as well. To insure this, we must release the mind of our youth and teach it to question even the obvious, to explore, to speculate, and to develop the necessary self-discipline, self-confidence derived from experimentation not abstract thinking at all times. The content of our educational system at present perpetuates the age of infancy and the extended dependency of our youth for prolonged periods. It is a system that still considers the student as a receptacle for knowledge without a mind to analyse; a system too preoccupied with the attainment of degrees to get better, more comfortable jobs and not the attainment of the ability to solve problems. We should teach that education is a continuous process that does not stop once a degree has been obtained. Self-education means that we should provide the tools the methodology and teach how to use them. Thus far we give our youth degrees but not the necessary tools for critical, creative thinking; nor do we develop the confident psychological make up necessary to face adversity.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: King rallies Arab ranks

KING Hussein's brief visit to Damascus and his talks with President Hafez Assad Thursday night and the King's previous meeting in Baghdad with President Saddam Hussein indicate that Jordan was continuing its active role on the Arab political scene. This role is clearly aimed at ending differences among Arab countries prior to restoring solidarity among them and regaining unity of ranks for the launching joint action aimed at regaining Arab legitimate rights and establishing real peace. The King had started his current endeavours with a visit to Egypt where he held talks with President Hosni Mubarak on means of regaining Arab solidarity. Through solidarity, Arab countries can have enough power to deal with the common challenges; and through joint action, Arab leaders can best serve their peoples and their nation. The King's efforts have been favourably responded to in Damascus, Baghdad and Cairo and this is a source of satisfaction a pride for Jordan which sees that the King is leading the Arabs towards the sound course of solidarity. This gives us hope that the future is something the Arabs can shape together as long as they are capable of confronting their common challenges and as long as they are determined to work seriously for the achievement of genuine peace.

Al Dustour: Jordan advocates solidarity

KING Hussein's tour of Arab capitals and his talks with Arab leaders indicate that Jordan is determined to re-establish solidarity among Arab countries and hopeful of ending all differences still lingering in the path of reconciliation. King Hussein's efforts are directed towards bringing unity of ranks within the Arab World so that the common enemy's conspiracies would be thwarted and aborted. It goes without saying that the current difficult circumstances the Arab Nation is going through requires unity of purpose and solidarity among Arab leaders since not a single Arab country can confront such enormous task by itself. Differences among Arab countries should be considered as temporary and cannot last for ever, and on this assumption Jordan, led by King Hussein, is trying to strengthen unity among Arabs through ending all forms of differences and bridging all gaps. Arab solidarity is required now more than ever before because of the present chance of holding an international conference which the Arabs hope will help them regain their rights and usurped lands. A joint Arab stand is therefore essential in these circumstances; and concerted efforts to achieve that stand is being exerted by King Hussein through his continuous contacts and consultations with the other Arab leaders.

Sawt Al Shaab: Restoring Arab unity

THE King's trip to Damascus, Baghdad and Cairo are designed to help the Arab countries restore solidarity and end differences that had plagued their relations for a long time. Jordan believes that solidarity is the only sound path for charting a brighter future for the Arab masses, and for helping the Arab Nation to restore its usurped lands and rights. King Hussein's endeavours are therefore serving as a catalyst, helping to open the doors wide for such solidarity and a joint stand among Arab leaderships. Through concerted efforts, unity of ranks and solidarity the Arabs feel they are strong, and through sound planning Amman, Baghdad, Damascus and Cairo can form power that can be reckoned with in the continuous drive to restore Arab rights. King Hussein's visit to Damascus last night should be considered as the crowning of the most recent round of contacts he is maintaining with Arab leaders. The King's strong belief in solidarity among Arab states stems from his belief that the world community can only respect a people that has the will to survive.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Israel blocks peace

STATEMENTS coming out from both parties of the Israeli coalition government indicate that the two sides are still wide apart over the issue of an international conference. These two parties have not yet agreed on holding an early parliamentary election to decide on the issue either, and it seems that they are both bidding for time and awaiting the opportune moment. As the haggling inside the government continues, Israeli troops and settlers continue their atrocities against the Arab people under their rule, and the Israeli government's drive to confiscate land and build more settlements goes on unhindered. It is clear that the Israelis are stalling for time and they do not really want the proposed peace conference, nor negotiations with the Arabs. They merely want to show the world that they have democracy in dealing with all matters, and they will refer the subject of negotiations to the people. The situation shows clearly that the Israeli government has made the future of the international conference hanging in the balance and awaiting a parliamentary election inside Israel. Thus we see Israel's hostile attitude towards real peace has not changed at all, and we are not expecting to see either party in the coalition seriously working towards the achievement of that peace.

Al Dustour: Israeli games

THE meeting of the inner Israeli cabinet has not resulted in any positive outcome, and that was expected by observers. The meeting showed clearly that Israeli leadership is playing a game of stalling for time and aiming at destroying the chance of the proposed peace conference. The two parties in the coalition had to play this game in view of the overwhelming international pressure on Israel to accept the idea of the international conference and accept real peace. The inner cabinet meeting session showed clearly that Shimon Peres, leader of the Labour Party which seemed at first to be seeking the convening of the proposed conference, had given the international community lip service and was in reality in agreement with the leader of the Likud on undermining all chances for real peace. All that Peres was saying about his power to have his own way inside the cabinet proved a total farce and all his manoeuvres did not help him to have the upper hand in government matters. The game he has been playing was designed to cheat the international community and the Israeli society itself, and his lies did not help him to even direct a threat to the Likud. The situation calls on the Arabs to take the initiative into their own hands and join their ranks to deal with the challenge.

Enter again, the champion of the liberal left

The career of Rev. Jesse Jackson seems to have been in the doldrums since 1984. Now, Stewart Fleming reports three years on about a Democrat hopeful's return to the U.S. presidential campaign trail.

"If you know somebody in your age group who is dead because of drugs ... please stand," the Rev. Jesse Jackson, the charismatic black civil rights leader-turned-politician asks his audience of about 700 mainly middle-class white students at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

Some two dozen individuals rise and stand, somewhat self-consciously, before their peers. "Be seated."

"If you know somebody in your age group in jail because of drugs ... please stand." Another score of students including once again the corps of black males on the front row, rise.

"If you know somebody in your age group who takes drugs, stand."

As one, the audience rises to its feet. A ripple of nervous laughter runs around the hall as the students find themselves forced to confront the reality of the drug problem in their midst.

"My friends ... This pervasive sense of surrender, of withdrawal, of escape, is too much of a

man for the displaced as well as the disadvantaged, for the workers who have lost their jobs in steel mills and for farmers who have lost their land, as much as for the disadvantaged blacks and Hispanics who he hoped would be the core of his "Rainbow coalition" in 1984.

No more than 2 per cent of the population of Iowa is black. But when Rev. Jackson set up his campaign office in the farm village of Greenfield, an hour's drive from Des Moines, 700 mainly white voters, the curious as well as the committed, turned up for the supper meeting.

That Rev. Jackson should be campaigning at all in Iowa has raised many eyebrows. But his presence in the state, as well as appearances in farms states such as Montana and South Dakota, far from the black urban masses of the north-east and the minority populations of the south, are a symbolic demonstration of his determination to try to be more than just a representative of racial special interests, easily consigned to the fringes of the Democratic Party.

If his campaign succeeds, his

political rivals will find it harder to dismiss him once again as a spoiler who is putting personal ambition ahead of party solidarity.

Iowa of course has a special significance. On February 8 next year, it will provide the first authentic test of the strength of the dozen or more candidates from both parties who are seeking to replace President Ronald Reagan.

Rev. Jackson's chances of toppling the Iowa polls on that day are slim at best. But in Iowa doing surprisingly well can be as



Jesse Jackson

important as winning. If he can succeed over the next 10 months in carving out a role as the spokesman for the liberal left of the party, some knowledgeable Iowans suspect that he could do a lot better than many might anticipate in the Democrats' first trial of strength.

If they are right, he could then quickly become a force to be reckoned with when 15 states in the south have primary elections and caucuses on "super Tuesday" March 8.

Then, if the Democratic field of contenders remains as over-crowded as it is today and the white candidates split the vote on "super Tuesday," as some expect, Rev. Jackson, drawing on his solid support among southern blacks, could pick up a hefty enough block of delegates to give him the powerful role at the party convention in July next year which he was denied in 1984.

Like his Democratic rivals, Rev. Jackson wants a high priority for education. But for him, it is needed not only to boost American competitiveness but also because "schools at their worst are better than jails at their best."

He sees no reason why Washington cannot bail out family farmers if it can bail out "Chrysler, Continental Bank, Japan, Israel and Europe."

What Rev. Jackson is offering at this early stage is not so much a political programme, more a populist crusade against a Republican administration insensitive to the needs of the poor and a culture on Wall Street and in corporate boardrooms which he sees as insensitive to the needs of the country.

In a nation which is losing faith in President Reagan's prescriptions for prosperity, beginning to believe again that government must be seen as part of the solution rather than the biggest part of the problem and hearing on all sides that foreigners are to blame for many of its ills, it is a crusade which bears watching.

The ranks of his supporters could swell if economic stagnation were to turn into recession. Then his critics would be watching to see whether Rev. Jackson was able to curb his inclination to play the demagogue and offer a programme for action, not just rhetoric — Financial Times

Most British press behind Thatcher, hostile to LabourBy Alan Eksner
Reuter

LONDON — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, aiming to rule Britain well into the 1990s, has a key ally in her election campaign — the country's popular press which has overwhelmingly backed her and bitterly hostile to the opposition Labour Party.

There is nothing new in most British newspapers supporting Thatcher's Conservative Party. But the strident anti-Labour tone adopted by some, coupled with an apparent endless series of personal smears directed at its leader Neil Kinnock, has alarmed some independent commentators as well as Labour politicians.

In the week leading up to Thatcher's announcement of the June 11 poll, the country's top-selling newspaper, the Sun, repeatedly castigated Kinnock as a cheat, a sham, a deceiver and a "Welsh windbag" leading a once respected party that had "degenerated into a Marxist shambles."

Thatcher, in contrast, was Britain's most effective prime minister since (Sir Winston) Churchill." Internationally admired and respected, she had restored a sense of national pride to

the British establishment, which has lurched to the right since Murdoch bought it in 1981. The Labour leader now calls it: "The Sun with long words."

With six of 11 national titles,

accounting for some 10.5 million of the 14 million newspapers sold daily in Britain, committed to Thatcher, Labour can count on the support only of the Daily Mirror with a circulation of just over three million. The upmarket Guardian and Independent, with a combined circulation of around 800,000 generally take a more neutral stance while today, with daily sales of about 300,000, is the only paper to support the alliance so far.

Loynes said Labour had already been severely damaged by the cumulative effects of months of hostile coverage.

"The more stories that appear talking about Labour's loony left, many of which apparently have no basis in fact, the more people are conditioned to believe that Labour is unworthy to govern," he said.

Labour officials said Kinnock had despised of getting his message across through the national newspapers and had decided to hold more news conferences outside London to emphasise the regional press.

On the day after Thatcher called the election, several other national newspapers struck a similar note.

The Daily Express compared Thatcher's radical vision with Labour's "whingeing" policies which ignored the fact that "most of us are not homosexual, lesbian and racist." Like many of the newspapers, it virtually disregarded the challenge of the centrist alliance of Liberals and Social Democrats.

The Daily Mail said Thatcher was "a strong leader, strong for freedom" while Labour was "turn back the clock by restoring the privileges and power of trade unions bosses." British newspapers, by and large, are now more prejudiced than they have ever been, more irresponsible in their use of facts than they have ever been, and in some instances more dishonest than they have ever been," said Labour's deputy leader Roy Hattersley.

It is true that there is overwhelming bias towards one party and that this stifles attempts at a fair debate. The problem is what can be done about it. You can't force newspapers to be impartial and readers still do have a choice," said Tony Loynes, editor of U.K. Press Gazette, a weekly magazine dealing with media affairs.

Meanwhile, the women's response to the coalition proposal has been to hold daily grassroots meetings at Hotel Vik, a former hippie squat, where posters and graffiti adorn the walls and the coffee in plastic cups comes at the price of a 30 crown (.75 cents) donation.

The discussions have been kept a closely guarded secret, much to the chagrin of journalists and the other political parties.

"We are not as experienced as the others — and we don't want the press to distort our position on the issues," said Anna Olafsdottir Bjornsson, who just missed getting elected to parliament for the women's alliance.

The feminists' silence has been widely criticised, but they are proud that no details have leaked from their daily 5 p.m. meetings.

When a separate women's candidacy was first announced before elections for the Reykjavik City Council in 1982, there were doubts that a political party could

be formed around women's issues alone.

She supported a women's strike in 1984, but resumed work to sign emergency wage-dispute legislation when the centre-right

government threatened a constitutional crisis.

During the strike a third of the nation's women gathered in Reykjavik to protest against low wages for women.

Political observers agree that the three Women's Alliance members of parliament who were first elected in 1983 have earned admiration for their hard work in the legislative assembly.

Members of the women's group assembled one recent afternoon at the Hotel Vik said it was their position on the issues and the Alliance's democratic methods that had won them much of the unexpected election support.

"Everything we do is discussed in open meetings and in work groups, then sent to the district groups around the country. They debate it and send it back to us," said Bjornsson.

"It is cumbersome, but that's democracy. It is amazing how well it works," she said.

On the Alliance's policies, Bjornsson said: "The most important thing is to raise pay levels for women."

Women's group holds balance of power in IcelandBy Thorir Gudmundsson
Reuter

REYKJAVIK — The balance of power in Icelandic politics could now be in the hands of half-a-dozen MPs from the country's flourishing women's alliance, ensconced in their headquarters in a ramshackle former hotel in central Reykjavik.

The women, who doubled their representation in parliament in the April 25 general election to six of the total 63 seats, are being wooed by their male colleagues in attempts to form a coalition government.

Outgoing Prime Minister Steingrimur Hermannsson, whose centrist Progressive Party holds 13 seats in parliament, was this week charged with trying to put together a new government.

However, the opposition Social Democrats have called for the conservative Independence Party and the Women's Alliance to join forces with them. Such a coalition would control 34 of the 63 seats in parliament.

But politicians say it could be months before the next coalition is formed. The Independence Party is Iceland's biggest party

and a member of the current ruling coalition.

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During the strike a third of the nation's women gathered in Reyk

From land to language: An Irish town's a brawl

By Joy Archenbach
National Geographic

WASHINGTON — A Chinese seaport is an abduction by drugging. An ancient Greek village, an endurance contest. A Pacific atoll becomes the briefest of bathing suits, and a Turkish river, aimless wanderings.

State Department Geographer George J. Demko started collecting such gems several years ago after his daughter asked what a donnybrook is. "That Irish place name made me curious about what other geographic names had passed into everyday language."

The rough, rowdy fight or free-for-all commonly called a donnybrook first broke out at an annual Donnybrook, Ireland, fair that was notorious for brawls. The medieval fair was suppressed in 1855. In more recent times, donnybrook has shifted to formal public forums, such as the floors of legislatures, as "a rowdy contention carried on between rival rivals."

Spontaneous nonsense

"Will you come up to Limerick?" It was an Irish custom to sing that chorus at convivial parties at which nonsense verses were spontaneously created. On the map, Limerick is a city on the River Shannon. In its typical five-line verse form, a limerick is: "There was a young lady named Harris/Who nothing could ever embarrass/Till the bath salts one day/in the tub where she lay/Turned out to be plaster of Paris."

Among its many legacies to civilisation, ancient Greece contributes Iesbia, spartan, and marathon. On the Aegean island



of Lesbos in the 6th century B.C., the lyric poetess Sappho lived and wrote among admiring female followers whose feelings for one another were reported to have been more than friendship.

The city-state of Sparta, once the most powerful in Greece, produced citizens renowned for their strict self-discipline, courage, frugality, and simplicity. The first celebrated long-distance run — from Marathon to Athens — carried the news of a Greek victory over the Persians in 490 B.C.

How do geographic names become generic words? "There may be something distinctive about a place, or a behaviour may be identified with a place, and that will stick. Over time, the word may no longer relate to the particular place, but be applied to more circumstances, different but related to the original sense," says Heather McCallum-Bayliss, assistant professor of linguistic at

Georgetown University. But, she points out, only a tiny percentage of the English language has geographic roots.

Maeander meanders

The Maeander's winding course was legendary. The river in ancient Phrygia in Asia Minor (now the Menderes River in Turkey) twisted and turned for about 250 miles before flowing into the Aegean Sea. Hence, meander.

Serendipity, that happy faculty for making fortunate discoveries accidentally, was coined by English writer Horace Walpole in the 18th century, from the fairy tale, "The Three Princes of Serendip." Its heroes wandered about, happening upon pleasant things they had not sought. Serendip is a variation of Serendib, from the ancient Arabic name for Ceylon, now Sri

Lanka. Bikini, which doesn't need even the briefest definition, was first an atoll in the Marshall Islands in the Pacific, site of atomic bomb tests in 1946. The two bikinis are linked, according to hyperbole in Webster's Third New International Dictionary, by "the comparison of the effects wrought by a scantily clad woman to the effects of an atomic bomb."

"Podunk." It may be said of any small American town with a reputation as a dull, insignificant backwater, but the original Podunk was a village in Massachusetts, or possibly Connecticut, named for the Podunk Indians.

"We don't know how it happened that Podunk is associated with a bad name. Maybe it's the sound of the word," says Kelsi Harder, an authority on American place names and a professor

of English at the State University of New York, Potsdam. "We do know that all the Podunks that sprang up across the country were small."

The scene of Napoleon's final defeat in 1815, near the Belgian town of Waterloo, is immortalised in everyday English. To meet one's Waterloo is any disaster or disastrous defeat, even if it does not equal Napoleon's.

The sleek, chauffeur-driven limousine as we know it evolved from the hooded cloak worn by the people of the old French province of Limousin. Through a "sense change," the hooded garment became a closed motor-car, originally with the driver's seat outside and covered with a roof.

Roots of sand

Gypsies from Egypt? It was mistakenly believed, even among Gypsies themselves, that they originally came from Egypt —

hence, the earlier English 'Gyprian,' shortened from Egyptian. Although their origins are still somewhat a mystery, most scholars today trace Gypsy roots to India.

U.S. usage has made a verb of one of China's chief seaports. To be shanghaied was originally what happened to sailors kidnapped for duty on the China run, usually with the help of drugs.

Spa, popular usage now for any health resort or commercial exercise establishment, sprang up in the 16th century as the name of a watering place in Belgium famed for its medicinal mineral springs.

Geography is responsible for naming a variety of goods after their places of origin: cologne, hamburger, and frankfurter (German cities); champagne and cognac (regions of France); sherry (Jerez de la Frontera, formerly Xeres, Spain); wiener (Wien, or Vienna); madras, (a city in India); and china (China).

Watching for a full moon

By Salah Abdul Samad

A good number of citizens in Jordan Tuesday night held a vigil in order to see if it was a "full moon" night or not. They obviously were trying to determine that Tuesday, May 12, which marked the middle of the month of Ramadan was actually the middle day of the holy month and so deduce that they had actually started their fasting exactly on the first day of Ramadan, which follows the month of Sha'aban on the Muslim calendar.

But citizens have discovered through their observation that there was no "full moon" on Tuesday night and so they concluded that they had started their fasting month a day earlier than scheduled. Many readers contacted this newspaper and requested that we caution the faithful about the number of days of fasting which should be 30 or at least 29 within the month of Ramadan. They said that if by any chance Muslims this year decided to fast 29 days, then they would have actually fasted 28 days within the month of Ramadan itself, something which is regarded as violating religious rules about Ramadan fasting which is one of the Islam's five pillars.

The problem has arisen and could arise again any time in the future simply because we do not follow scientific principles in determining the beginning and the end of lunar or Muslim months of the year, and still prefer visual sightings of the crescent to determine the start of each lunar month. We hope that Muslim scholars will now adopt scientific methods that can put an end to such confusion.

Israeli universities face worst financial crisis

By Galina Vromen
Reuter

TEL AVIV — Cuts in government funding, mismanagement and student protests over rising tuition fees have plunged Israeli universities into their worst crisis in decades.

Once the pride of the fledgling Jewish state, Israeli universities are now \$150 million in debt and say they have no choice but to cut staff, bring research to a halt, reduce wages and hike tuition fees.

There is a freeze on hiring. There is almost a total freeze on the purchase of scientific periodicals and in the past three years no new research projects have been initiated," said Tel Aviv University spokeswoman Carol Cook.

The effects are felt by professors struggling for funding for their experiments and by students who have clashed with mounted police and been sprayed with tear gas in protests against plans to raise study fees next year.

"We used to attract quite a lot of professors from abroad who wanted to come for a sabbatical year; but we have stopped being interesting," a Tel Aviv University physics professor told Reuters.

"If you have an experiment going and you suddenly decide you want to add a \$50 gadget to improve it, there's no funding," said the professor who asked not to be named.

In Jerusalem, the Hebrew University has built a new fortress-like campus on Mount Scopus in the most massive building project in the city since the 1967 war, but it has almost no money for new library books.

At Tel Aviv University, where in the 1970s there was one faculty member for every 12 students, there is today one professor for every 30 students, according to the university.

University officials say their problems began more than a decade ago when the government gradually reduced funding to the country's 12 major institutions of higher education.

In a country where all universities are state run, government funding to higher education has dropped from 7.9 per cent of Israel's non-military operating budget in 1973 to 5.6 per cent in 1986 — or 1.2 per cent of all government spending.

Funds decreased most sharply after the right-wing Likud Bloc under Menachem Begin was swept into power in 1977, according to Yaakov Ziv of the university planning and grants committee, which oversees government funding to universities.

Voted in largely by underprivileged oriental Jews, Likud gave little priority to the universities dominated by the European Ashkenazi Jews whom it viewed as the chief supporters of the rival Labour Party and more leftist parties, he said.

Ziv said both the government and universities were to blame for the present crisis. "Over the years there has been less money," he told Reuters.

"It was sometimes held back (by the government), and, out of anger, some institutions stopped trying to keep control. The funding study gave legitimacy to administrators to give up in desperation and act irresponsibly," he said.

A recent state comptroller's report criticised universities for under-reporting their debts, showing staff cuts on paper that never actually took place and seriously underestimating the cost of new buildings.

The universities say the only way out of their troubles is to raise tuition fees from \$1,400 at present to about \$2,300 a year, get emergency funding of \$25 million now and increase allocations of \$68 million dollars over the next four years.

The students are bitter over bearing a greater share of the burden and boycotted classes for six days this month, demanding tuition fees be lowered to \$800.

They ended their strike after the government began this week to debate proposals from the education and finance ministries to set fees at \$1,100 or \$1,600.

Students say their country owes them an education after their long army service which makes them older than most students in Western countries when they enter university.

Many say they are already burdened with family expenses and cannot afford high fees.

The universities say that in addition to more money they need a freer hand in handling their funds.

"We have very little control of our budget," a Hebrew University spokesman told Reuters.

HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN THE ARAB POTASH COMPANY NOTIFICATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION PROJECT No. APC-9

The Arab Potash Company Ltd. (APC) of Amman, Jordan, plans certain dredging works at its potash project located near Safi on the Dead Sea, approximately 180 km south of Amman and 200 km north of Aqaba-port. Amman and Aqaba are linked to the potash project by paved highway. The dredging works will be partially financed by a loan in various currencies from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). The required works shall include the following:

- Dredging in soft mud to enlarge and deepen the existing intake channel to the brine intake in the Dead Sea. Total quantity of dredging approximately 260,000m³ to a maximum depth of 11 m.
- Dredging of rock salt reefs in the solar evaporation pan. Total quantity of dredging is approximately 50,000m³ at depth varying from a few centimetres to 3 metres.
- Handover of dredging equipment on completion of dredging.

Alternative bids will also be invited for the soft mud dredging only [item (a)]. Interested contractors from member countries of World Bank, Switzerland and Taiwan/China are invited to submit the following prequalification data:

- Details of experience and performance for the last 5 years on similar contracts.
- Capability of plant and personnel to carry out the works with particular reference to dredging of rock salt.
- Evidence of a sound financial position.

The required information should be submitted in English language not later than 30/06/87 to each of the following addresses and all contractors who satisfy the requirements for prequalification will be invited to purchase tender documents and submit tenders.

The Managing Director
Arab Potash Company Ltd.
P.O. Box 1470
Amman, Jordan

Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners
427 London Road
Reading
Berks RG6 1BL
U.K.

This programme reconstructs the diplomatic crisis which, it is conjectured, may surround an historical Trojan War. It also retraces a 500-mile journey to the Aegean coast by the emperor of the Hittites (one of the most powerful men in the ancient world): a journey which leads to confrontation with the 'Great King of Greece'. This political reconstruction is made possible by the survival of letters on clay tablets in East Berlin, and it is in that city that the latest discovery may disclose the real disaster which befell Troy around 1260 B.C.

10:20 The Rebels

Produced by MCA TV for the Operation Prime Time programming concept, "The Rebels" is the adventurous sequel to "The Bastard," both of which form part of the Bi-Centennial series of novels by author John Jakes. An exciting and dramatic adventure-romance, "The Rebels" continues the story of immigrant Philip Kent (ne Charboneau), his contributions to the cause of the American Revolution, and his personal passions.

A telex arrives for Bond saying that the Conner syndicate has been trying to buy the Australian keel design from the Netherlands ship Model Basin. Confrontation is inevitable. Commodore Bob McCullough and executives finally put their cards on the table with Bond, advising him of their opinion that the boat is in breach of the rules, and that he has requested a remeasurement of the keel from the International Yachting Union, who have agreed to do so.

10:20 Feature Film

The Gray Fox
Starring: Jackie Burroughs

Beneath the peaceful surface of an English country village lurk intrigue, guilt, deception — and murder. And beneath the gentle, unassuming exterior of an elderly English spinster, a razor-sharp mind with an intuitive understanding of criminal behaviour is hard at work. Miss Marple — the most popular character ever created by the Queen of Crime, Agatha Christie — returns to the television screen in four more gripping two-part mysteries. Following the first enormously successful BBC Miss Marple series, the acclaimed character-actress Joan Hickson again picks up her knitting needles to play Agatha Christie's own favourite creation. This time the action takes place in the mid-1950s, a period re-created in charming style with the same eye for detail that distinguished the previous four stories.

Mon. May 18, 1987

8:30 Ever Decreasing Circles

9:10 Moonlighting

10:20 Fair Stood the Wind for France

Hidden in the mill the three

armies come under increasing

strain. Franklin's arm is worse

and doctor is forced to give him

an amputation. Either he goes into

hospital or he loses the arm.

Franklin realises that going to

hospital would betray the people

who have helped him, including

Franklin on whom he has come

to depend so much. Meanwhile,

of Franklin's insistence, O'Conor

and Taylor have left the mill

to take their chances. The doctor

suggests Franklin's arm and a

period of convalescence begins.

Tue. May 19, 1987

8:30 You Again

9:10 Yesterday's Dreams

10:20 The Unknown War

11:00 Home

Wednesday May 20, 1987

8:30 The Unknown War

10:20 Home

11:00 Home

Thursday May 21, 1987

8:30 Bill Cosby Show

9:10 Falcon Crest

10:20 Peter the Great

11:00 Home

Friday May 22, 1987

8:30 Bill Cosby Show

9:10 Falcon Crest

10:20 Peter the Great

11:00 Home

Saturday May 23, 1987

8:30 Bill Cosby Show

9:10 Falcon Crest

Cane gives Romans reason to cheer

ROME (R) — Even in a nation heavily populated with lovable eccentrics, Paolo Cane, eliminated in the quarter-finals of the Italian Open Tennis Championships Friday, is warmly regarded as an oddball.

Despite his undistinguished reputation as a player, Cane is a national treasure in Italy where his histrionics on court have endeared him to public and the press, who have dubbed him "Paolo La Peste."

Cane's philosophy of life is best summed up by his choice of doubles partner at this tournament. Advised to find a father-figure to act as a steady influence, he came up with John McEnroe.

Unashamedly patriotic, the large and excitable crowd who annually flock to the Foro Italico have not had a hero of their own since the dashing Adriano Panatta triumphed in 1977.

Cane has neither the charisma nor the artistry of Panatta, but every point he plays is pure theatre, a series of studies in farce and tragedy.

Hollow-cheeked and haunted-looking, Cane reacts to each little triumph or disaster; he laughs, he

cries he smiles, he spits he praises the gods, he curses the elements.

Asked to explain Cane's melodramatics, an Italian official shrugged and said: "He's from Bologna... he's crazy."

Cane's outbursts have become part of Italian tennis folklore like

the time he launched a particularly vitriolic tirade against the Bolognese crowd for applauding him too enthusiastically.

The enterprising city echoed to a stream of similar expletives this week during Cane's unexpected progress into the last eight past the vastly experienced Czechoslovak Tomas Smid and 13th-seeded Swede Jonas Svensson.

Cane's Roman campaign ended amid typical drama against number 11 seed Martin Jaite of Argentina, who entered the tournament

ranked 45th in the world.

"I know I'm bad, but I don't care," said the 22-year-old Italian, who entered the tournament

target for his venom.

No-one is immune. Umpires, linesmen, ballboys, opponents and spectators are all fair game when the scowling Cane wants a target for his venom.

"Yes, I swear at the crowd, why shouldn't I? ... they say they love me true, they applaud my victories. But if they adore me, why do they whistle and jeer when I'm losing 5-0?"

Jordan to participate in worldwide bridge contest

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will participate in a unique worldwide Bridge event on Sunday evening.

Players from all over the world will play the same computer-devised hands simultaneously as they compete in the second Epsom Worldwide Bridge contest.

In each country, an organiser, sworn to secrecy and not participating in the contest, prepares the hands according to a booklet he receives from the Epsom Committee. Jordan's organiser and director is Mr. Zuhni Rafat, a member of the Jordan Bridge Club which groups 200 members.

Winners will be awarded prizes locally. However, players with exceptionally high scores can submit their scores to the Paris headquarters of the contest, where the five top worldwide scorers will receive Epson personal computers. The next five best scorers will receive mini-computers, and the following 20 will each get a Seiko watch. All players receive the Epson booklet which contains a list of all possible scores for each hand with an analysis by Omar Sharif.

Approximately 120,000 players worldwide are expected to participate this year, of which about 90 come from Jordan. In last year's contest there were 66,000 players, of which about 60 were from Jordan.

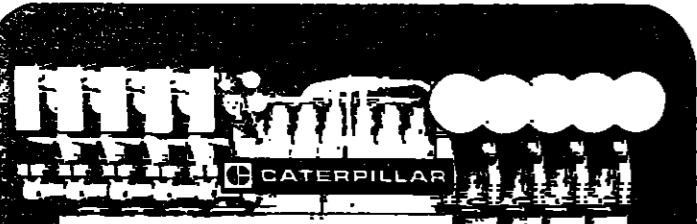
The contest in Jordan starts at 9:00 p.m. at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.

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SPANISH CULTURAL CENTRE
Announces the start of registration for a one-month intensive course for learning Spanish. The course starts on Monday, June 1. Classes meet on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, two hours a day. Registration starts on 15/5/1987 through 30/5/1987
For further information please call Spanish Cultural Centre, Jabal Amman, First Circle tel: 624049

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Alysheba and Bet Twice duel again in Preakness

likely run the talented colt Gone West in the Belmont — a race in which he has not tasted success for five years.

Five of Alysheba's challengers Saturday followed him to the wire in Kentucky on May 2.

Bet Twice, second favourite in the Preakness at 3-1, led in the final stretch in the Kentucky Derby before giving way.

Partnered then as now by Craig Perret, Bet Twice tired and swung wildly in the closing stages and nearly brought down Alysheba as the two battled for victory.

The pair are sure to emerge leading contenders for the bi-monthly Saturday but many feel the Kentucky runner-up may have the edge this time in the shorter race.

Cryptoclearance, the 7-2 third choice, finished a creditable fourth in the Derby after encountering traffic problems in the crowded 17-horse field.

He was well regarded before the Derby after strong showings in Florida earlier in the year and if he can keep clear of trouble today, could threaten in the running.

Aries Copy, the long shot third-placed finisher in the Derby, Gulch, a disappointing sixth, and No More Flowers complete the list of runners.

Lookinfortheribone, trained by Wayne Lukas, the top money-winning trainer in the United States in 1983 and 1986, did not run in the Derby and must be considered the best.

Amsterdam marks Ajax win as dawn of new era

AMSTERDAM (R) — Thousands have jammed the Centre of Amsterdam to greet the returning heroes of Ajax.

Their 1-0 success over Lokomotiv Leipzig of East Germany on Thursday night in the Cup Winners' Cup final was being seen as the dawn of a new era of success for the club in European Soccer.

Over 10,000 fans, some hanging from buildings or balanced precariously on tram shelters, sang and cheered as the team displayed the trophy from the Sonny Silooy with a powerful glancing header at the near post.

However, Ajax were unable to build on their early advantage and technical director Johan Cruyff's hopes of an improvised version of the "total football" of his heyday were frustrated.

Lokomotiv were content to defend for long period but counter-attacked dangerously. For all that, they were unable to create a single clear chance and Ajax goalkeeper Stanley Menzo enjoyed a trouble-free evening.

Ajax unexpectedly opted for Arnold Muhren, 35, in midfield and included 19-year-old Frank Verlaat in central defence.

It was Verlaat's European debut and only his second full appearance for Ajax after breaking into the first team in last Sunday's league fixture against Utrecht.

Verlaat, probably the most inexperienced player to appear in a European final, was guided through the game by impressive sweeper Frank Rijkaard. He and Muhren, who passed a late fitness test, proved the decisive players as Ajax's energy and tactical enterprise earned them the trophy.

Hoddle's magic could undermine Coventry

LONDON (R) — If Glenn Hoddle pulls Tottenham's rich network of strings to good effect at Wembley on Saturday Coventry's first appearance in an English F.A. Cup final could end in heartbreak.

Hoddle, whose appearance in the showpiece of the English season will bring down the curtain on an illustrious career with the famous North London Club, boasts a repertoire of skills most players only dream of attaining.

Former Argentine international Ricardo Villa, scorer of two of the goals which brought Tottenham their sixth F.A. Cup victory in 1982 and 1986. But perhaps his greatest achievement for the national team was leading them to victory in the 1984 European Championship finals, a tournament held in France.

He also played in the ill-fated 1985 European Cup final against English club Liverpool in Brussels, a match won 1-0 by Juventus after a riot which caused the deaths of 39 people.

Once the darling of the Italian soccer world, Platini has come under constant attack in the press in recent months for his disappointing performances with Juventus this season.

But today sports writers and fellow players, anticipating his departure, paid tribute to him as a true gentleman and one of the greatest footballers in the world.

"Platini, how hard it is to say good-bye," ran the headline in the Gazzetta Dello Sport, complimenting the Frenchman as the most Italian of all the many foreign players in Italian soccer.

Platini personifies the aristocratic standing of Tottenham. While they boast internationals in almost every position and several players who look on the Wembley Stadium as a second home, only three of Coventry's side have played there before.

Tottenham manager David Pleat is hoping that this fact will work to his side's advantage. "Coventry are playing with great spirit, but I don't know how they will react on the day in the stadium, on that grass, in that atmosphere," he said.

Coventry skipper Brian Kilcline is adamant that the "Sky Blues" will not freeze on Saturday. Confidence is sky high in their camp after a season of

success under the astute managerial team of George Curtis and John Sillett who played together for the club in the 1960s.

The Tottenham players' reputations don't frighten us," Kilcline said. "I reckon our lads will thrive on the atmosphere. If we both play to our potential it could be a classic final."

No-one in Coventry's well balanced side has thrived more on the atmosphere that success in the league and cup has brought than Cyril Regis, a former England striker who came close to quitting the game last season.

The mercurial Regis is playing as well as when he made his name by bludgeoning his way through opposing defences several seasons ago.

He and Keith Houchen, who has a knack of scoring vital goals in cup ties, should keep Richard Gough and Gary Mabbutt, two of the best central defenders in the English game, on the hop.

While Coventry favour a 4-4-2 formation, Tottenham will opt for a system which leaves Clive Allen as their only target man. It has worked so well this season that Allen has scored a remarkable 48 goals — five more than the revered Jimmy Greaves' longstanding club record for a season.

Pleat, in his first season as Tottenham manager, rates Allen "the best finisher I've ever seen," and if Hoddle and company provide him with the right service then the Coventry defence will be hard pressed to stop him from adding to his impressive haul.

The fact that Allen has prevented Belgian Nico Claesen, one of Europe's best international strikers, from commanding a regular place in the Tottenham-team will not have been lost on the

fact that Allen has been told by the F.A. that he



Clive Allen

Coventry management. But though Coventry will start as underdogs, they can draw inspiration from a thrilling 4-3 victory over Tottenham earlier this season.

Chief coach John Sillett, a big man in every sense, thinks his side can again get the better of classily Tottenham. "Getting to Wembley is very special. But it is only the start," he said.

F.A. decides not to charge Allen

Allen, who is English footballer of the year, has received a big boost ahead of Saturday's F.A. Cup final.

The Tottenham striker has been told by the F.A. that he

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Friday.

One Sterling	1.6770/80	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.3370/80	Canadian dollar
	1.7825/55	West German marks
	2.0950/0105	Dutch guilders
	1.4640/50	Swiss francs
	36.97/37.00	Belgian francs
	5.9500/50	French francs
	1292/1293	Italian lira
	139.40/50	Japanese yen
	6.2350/2400	Swedish crown
	6.6350/6400	Norwegian crowns
	6.7025/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	465.60/466.10	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices were mixed in late trading after an earlier surge pushed the FTSE 100 share index through the 2,200 mark for the first time. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was up just 9.6 points at 2,189.6 after touching a new record high of 2,202.4 at 1100 GMT.

Dealers said trading continued to be thin and mainly inter-professional, with the lower Wall Street opening giving many operators an excuse to take profits.

Wall Street tended lower on inflation fears after the April U.S. producer prices index showed a larger than expected 0.7 per cent rise and a 1/4 point hike in prime rate by Chase Manhattan bank.

Dealers said the London market was continuing to move ahead on speculation of a ruling Conservative Party win in the June 11 general election and optimism about the U.K. economy.

Speculation that the Tories would win the election was reinforced on Friday by a new opinion poll in the Evening Standard, giving the Tories an 18 per cent lead over opposition Labour.

U.K. retail price index figures for April, which showed higher than expected inflation of 4.2 per cent, failed to have much effect on a still fundamentally bullish market, dealers said.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Whatever big plans you want to put into motion have a good chance of working now. Use care today in decisions, as judgments are likely to be warped.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) An experienced business person can assist you with some vocational problem. Get your much-needed rest tonight.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 18) State your aims to a recent acquaintance and accept any help you're offered. Get rid of your depression.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can gain greater benefits now from routine activities. It's not the best time to go after personal wishes.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Contact one who can arrange a pleasurable time for you. Don't ask favors from people of prominence.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Show that you are willing to do your share of tasks around the house. Don't try to force your mate into anything.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Outline your plans to a good friend who can help you. Steer clear of an angry co-worker. Keep out of trouble.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) An expert can give you good advice for property improvement. Don't do anything to spoil your public prestige.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be careful in communicating with others. If you have visits to make, handle them in the morning.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get into those matters that will help build your security. Take time to do the necessary shopping.

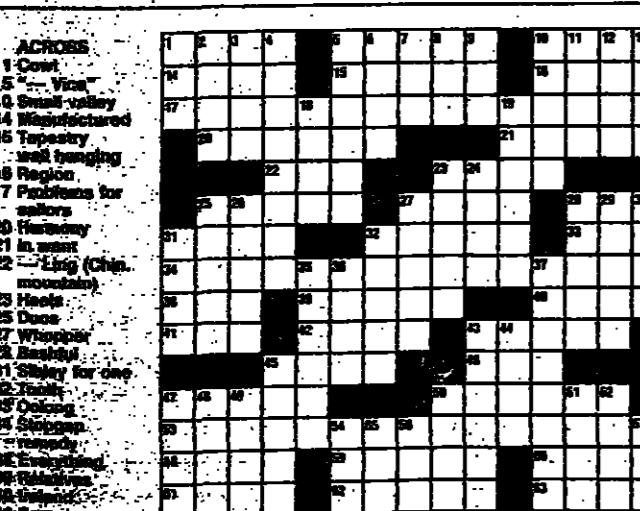
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Go after your personal aims of importance and get good results. Invest some time in your social life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be very practical in the handling of your affairs. Do whatever will please your mate today.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have some worldly situations that can be handled in a most efficient way. Study your income now.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he, or she, will be a delightful young person and will want to make a great deal of money. Encourage this child's wish for a good education. Be sure that good health habits are taught early in life. Your progeny will relegate pleasure to the latter part of life.

THE Daily Crossword



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

EVERY	IDAH	ADAM
10 A US soap	11 DENI	12 MOBEL
11 Pe- port	12 Gave for a	13 while
12 Give for a	13 while	14
13 Woman of	14	15
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92 -er	93	94
93 -er	94	95
94 -er	95	96
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96 -er	97	98
97 -er	98	99
98 -er	99	100

Foreign banks in UAE show modest recovery

ABU DHABI (R) — Foreign banks in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are showing first signs of improving earnings after a sharp decline caused by the Middle East recession and a mounting volume of non-performing loans.

The UAE's 29 foreign banks, whose branches mushroomed during the 1970s oil boom, piled up more than 100 million dirhams (\$27 million) in losses during 1985 as loans soured and new business dried up.

But, along with local banks, the majority showed a modest improvement last year and bankers said they expect an upturn in 1987 profits despite still tough business conditions.

"Last year was a year of consolidation, of tidying up the smaller bad loans and introducing new products," said one foreign banker. "This year should see a real turnaround."

A Reuter survey shows that of 25 foreign bank branches to have reported 1986 results, nine lost a total of 81 million dirhams (\$22 million) and six made net profits of less than one million dirhams (\$27,000) each.

Still, 18 did better than in 1985 and aggregate profits edged up slightly to 130 million dirhams (\$35 million) from 124 million (\$34 million) in 1985. The foreign banking sector has shrunk considerably. American Express has wound up lending altogether, reporting zero loans and advances at end-1986.

Banks refuse to help Arab steel plant

BAHRAIN (R) — Creditor banks owed \$170 million by a struggling pan-Arab iron pellet plant have rejected a settlement offer asking them to write off more than half the debt, banking sources said Thursday.

The Bahrain-based Arab Iron and Steel Company (AISCO), which has been idle for about a year, had offered to pay \$69 million to bank creditors immediately if they agreed to write off the remaining amount.

One banker said: "We have rejected the offer but have not yet finalised our own proposals. We may finalise our position at a meeting scheduled for next week."

An AISCO source said the \$300 million plant, which started production in 1984, was still viable but could not restart operations until the burden of its loans was lifted.

"The market was such that we couldn't meet our commitments and we are negotiating with the banks now to solve the problem," the source said.

"We want to begin operating the plant again but the burden of our loans prevents this," the source added.

Bankers said a consortium of nine local and foreign banks had guaranteed AISCO's purchase of \$159 million worth of machinery and equipment to the Export Guarantee Bank of Japan.

The sum has since grown with interest and an earlier rescheduling.

Bankers said they were waiting before finalising counter-proposals on debt in case a buyer for AISCO comes forward.

AISCO is owned by companies and state agencies in Bahrain, Kuwait and Jordan.

The company source said a study by British Steel Corporation showed the plant, with an annual capacity of four million tonnes, was still viable.

"Projections for demand in the Gulf and elsewhere during the next 15 to 17 years indicate the company is viable and the plant should be run," he said.

Danes slash oil consumption

PARIS (R) — Denmark's dependence on imported oil for its energy requirements has been slashed by about a third since 1973, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said Friday.

Its oil imports had dropped to 56 per cent of its total primary energy requirement in 1985 from 89 per cent in 1973, the IEA said in its latest annual review of Danish energy policy.

Despite a rise in demand between 1984 and 1985, the government was successful in reducing oil consumption by two per cent in 1986, primarily through maintaining and even increasing taxes, it said.

Danish gas production was equivalent to nearly a million tonnes of oil in 1985 after the first year of production in 1984 yielded an equivalent of 210,000 tonnes.

U.S. Congress increases debt ceiling to \$2.3 trillion

WASHINGTON (R) — Congress on Thursday approved an emergency \$20 billion increase in the ceiling on the federal debt to a record \$2.32 trillion to allow the U.S. government to pay its bills.

The Senate passed the measure on a vote of 58 to 36 one day after the House of Representatives approved the same increase. It now goes to President Reagan for his signature.

The action averts a possible federal obligation on May 28 and disruptions in federal financing.

The passage of the temporary increase to carry government borrowing needs through July 17 occurred only after President Reagan agreed to support an effort by Senator Phil Gramm, a Texas Republican, to reform the federal budget process.

Mr. Gramm agreed to withhold his controversial budget amendments until the debt ceiling extension comes up for another vote in July.

At midnight Friday the permanent debt ceiling would have \$2.1 trillion from a temporary level of \$2.3 trillion.

Without the increase, the government would have run out of cash May 28 and the Treasury Department would have postponed its next auctions of treasury bills set for Monday.

The \$20 billion will run out on July 17 and by then Congress will face another vote on the White House request for a total debt ceiling of \$2.57 trillion to last through Sept. 30, 1988.

It is the July vote on which Mr. Gramm said he will force a decision on ways to put automatic federal spending cuts into law.

Meanwhile, an improved U.S. trade performance in March

March figure a fluke resulting partly from the fact that Japan's voluntary auto export restrictions programme runs on a one-year schedule that ended March 31.

Fijian coup leader calls on world to support new regime

SUVA (R) — Lieutenant-Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka said Friday a council of ministers appointed after a bloodless coup was in complete control of Fiji and called on the outside world to support the new regime.

"It is clear that the people of Fiji have accepted what has happened and are prepared to co-operate in the national interests of Fiji and the over-riding interest of peace," Col. Rabuka told reporters after the council held its first meeting.

Col. Rabuka appointed the council after storming parliament Thursday and abducting Prime Minister Timoci Bavadra and the cabinet of his left-leaning, ethnic Indian-dominated coalition.

Dressed in the traditional Fijian army officer's uniform of a Sulu (wrap-around skirt) Rabuka told a news conference the council of 16 ministers was in complete control.

"I would expect that since the military government is in full control and is effectively running the country in an atmosphere of peace and calm that countries with whom we have diplomatic relations should recognise this new government," Col. Rabuka said.

Groups of Fijians, including leading Alliance members, have held street demonstrations since the poll demanding that traditional power be restored to the indigenous people.

Col. Rabuka sought to reassure the majority ethnic Indian com-

munity that he had their interests at heart.

"I reassure our nation, and especially our Indian citizens and those of other races, that the protection of their lives and property is our top priority," Col. Rabuka said.

Parliament buildings were surrounded by heavily-armed militiamen. Troops patrolled the streets of the capital.

Col. Rabuka reminded foreign powers that the United Nations charter reaffirmed the right of self-determination and non-interference by other states in domestic affairs.

Col. Rabuka's military government has not been recognised by any foreign government though he talked to heads of diplomatic corps in Suva Thursday.

He said his military regime was making efforts to normalise the situation and return the country to democratic rule. He cautioned the two English-language newspapers, the Fiji Times and the Fiji Sun, and their subsidiaries to stop publishing until further notice, official sources said. Both newspapers carried editorials Friday criticising the military takeover.

Col. Rabuka has said he launched the coup to preempt the take-over. On the contrary, this presence is an element of stability as

Bavadra government from calling out the military to quell Fijian unrest.

Mr. Bavadra, under house arrest after his release Friday from a military barracks, said there was "absolutely no reason" to justify the coup and denied he had intended to use the army against the people.

The United States Thursday denounced the military coup and urged a prompt return to democracy.

The United States is profoundly disturbed whenever a democratically elected government is removed by force," State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley told reporters.

"We hope Fiji will return to democratic government as soon as possible."

In Noumea, French Overseas Territories Minister Bernard Pons described the coup in Fiji as worrying and said it highlighted the importance of France staying in the Pacific as a bulwark against instability.

This type of event risks provoking signs of tension in the region, Mr. Pons told reporters during a visit to the French South Pacific territory of New Caledonia.

He said the military coup in Fiji "demonstrated that the risk of destabilisation does not come from France's presence in New Caledonia."

Australia and New Zealand also denounced the take-over.

On the contrary, this presence is an element of stability as

France is the guarantor of democracy," he added.

British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe urged a return to democracy in Fiji and the Commonwealth condemned the army takeover there.

After consulting cabinet colleagues, Howe issued a statement calling for the restoration of the recently-elected Fijian government.

Commonwealth Secretary-General Sir Shridath Ramphal condemned the coup and called for the government of Prime Minister Bavadra to be restored.

In his statement Howe said: "The British government was deeply concerned to hear of the attempt to displace by military force a duly-elected government in a Commonwealth country."

"We look for a swift return to parliamentary democracy and a full restoration of the government in Fiji."

In Moscow, the Soviet News Agency TASS released an article Friday on the military coup in Fiji which foreign analysts said suggested the Kremlin did not welcome the takeover.

TASS described the soldiers who led the coup as military rebels who had staged on mutiny, and made a point of observing that no foreign government had recognised the new government of Col. Rabuka.

He said the military coup in Fiji "demonstrated that the risk of destabilisation does not come from France's presence in New Caledonia."

Australia and New Zealand also denounced the take-over.

On the contrary, this presence is an element of stability as

Filipino police, fearing clashes, remain on alert

MANILA (R) — Police in Manila remained on a post-election red alert Friday, fearing possible clashes between rightists claiming poll cheating and their leftist student opponents.

Students said they would march on the headquarters of the official Election Commission (Comelec) to "defend the democracy from the return of the dictatorship."

The student rally followed a mass demonstration Thursday by right-wing opponents of President Corazon Aquino at which they threatened to turn "people power" against her if final election returns appeared fraudulent.

The demonstration included many supporters of former President Ferdinand Marcos, who was toppled in a popularly-backed military revolt which installed Mrs. Aquino as president in February 1986.

The right-wing groups have complained bitterly of election cheating after being routed in Monday's vote for a new legislature.

Independent observers dismissed the claims and called the vote, despite some acknowledged fraud, perhaps the cleanest ever in the Philippines.

Unofficial partial returns showed a 23-1 sweep by Mrs. Aquino's candidates for the 24 senate seats and an overwhelming majority in the 200-member lower house. The government commission on elections said official results will be known after two weeks.

"If they will ignore our ballots, we will use people power against them," opposition leader Juan Ponce Enrile told the rally of up to 20,000 people who blocked the

Opinion polls boost Thatcher as election campaigns begin

LONDON (AP) — Labour leader Neil Kinnock kicked off the Socialist Party's election campaign on Friday with a sharp attack on Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's domestic record, accusing her of creating a "squid and brutal" society.

Meanwhile, three opinion polls published Friday showed Mrs. Thatcher's governing Conservative Party with a commanding lead over Labour, the main parliamentary opposition. The prime minister is seeking a third consecutive term in the June 11 election.

Two of the polls — one of which put the Conservatives 18 percentage points ahead — indicated Mrs. Thatcher could return to power in a landslide on the scale of her 1983 re-election victory. She was first elected in May 1979.

In 1983, the Conservatives gained a sweeping 144-seat majority over all the other parties combined in the 650-seat House of Commons.

Mrs. Thatcher, who has consistently led in opinion polls for the

past month, was scheduled to deliver her first speech of the campaign Friday night in Scotland.

On Thursday, she warned party faithful against complacency.

"We are on the brink of battle," she said, adding that Conservatives would have to fight "every hour of the day" to secure a third term in office.

Setting the tone of Labour's campaign, Mr. Kinnock said Friday that Mrs. Thatcher was pursuing policies that would return the nation to pre-World War II era of social deprivation.

"The system that Margaret Thatcher wants to return to was wrong, wretched, squallid and brutal," Mr. Kinnock, a Welshman, told about 400 delegates to a Welsh Labour Party conference in Llandudno. "It was rotten with injustice, misery and division."

Of the three opinion polls published Friday, one in London's Evening Standard indicated Mrs. Thatcher could increase her parliamentary majority from an already comfortable 144 to 174.

U.S. sends Waldheim documents to Vienna

VIENNA (R) — A U.S. Justice Department team has arrived in Vienna with documents used in the decision effectively to bar President Kurt Waldheim from the United States.

Chancellor Franz Vranitzky said that he would not be meeting the U.S. officials.

He told Austrian television that the team, which includes Deputy Assistant Attorney-General Mark Richard, would hand over the documents to Justice Minister Egmont Forgger.

Asked why he would not be meeting the team, Mr. Vranitzky said: "These are officials of the American Justice Department. One gentleman is a deputy attorney-general and I think that in these circumstances it is right that

he should be allowed to meet us."

He said the others were running a clinic, self-help projects and distributing food, clothing and medicine on the farm about 15 kilometers from Gondola. They were attached to an aid body called Mission to Mozambique.

More than 80 parties, many of them regional interest groups or local factions of the main political groupings, had been officially presented by the close of registration Wednesday night.

But the campaign, like the eight-week crisis which led to the calling of the June 14-15 election, is expected to centre on a bitter power struggle between the Christian Democrats (DC), Italy's largest party, and the Socialists.

The DC is likely to remain the largest political grouping whatever the result of the poll, called a year ahead of schedule after all attempts to resolve the crisis failed.

But any shifts in the share of the vote will influence negotiations among the main contenders after the poll for the premiership in what is expected to be another coalition administration.

The DC are stressing their experience and dominance of Italian politics which has seen them

hold the premiership in all four of the country's post-war governments.

The Communists, Italy's second biggest party which has been excluded from government since 1947, are hoping to capitalise on the rift between the DC and the Socialists and have already scored a minor coup in attracting five former prominent Socialists onto their list.

Political sources say that if the DC-Socialist breach proves impossible to heal after the election there could be a major realignment of political forces.

There has been widespread speculation that either the DC or the Socialists may attempt to reach some form of "understanding" with the Communists after the poll in order to form a viable administration.

Asked about the reports, Mr. Craxi said Wednesday: "The Communists say no to the Christian Democrats and vice versa. But no-one says never perhaps because in politics it is never wise to say never and that goes for us too."

COLUMNS 7 & 8

'Frontier Gandhi' to get medical treatment

NEW DELHI (R) — Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi in India's struggle for independence, is to fly from Pakistan to India for medical treatment, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said. It said Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had ordered a plane to be sent for Mr. Khan, 97, a leader of the Pashtoon community which lives along the Pakistan-Afghan border. Mr. Khan, a close friend of Rajiv Gandhi's grandfather, Jawaharlal Nehru, became known as the "Frontier Gandhi" in the subcontinent's campaign for independence from the British. PTI did not say what was wrong with Mr. Khan but said an Indian cardiologist would accompany him to Bombay, where he would receive intensive care in hospital. PTI said the governor and chief minister of Maharashtra state, of which Bombay is the capital, would meet Mr. Khan at the airport in a gesture of respect. Mr. Khan has been jailed several times in Pakistan while leading a campaign for an independent Pashtoon homeland.

Swiss to give Yamani residence rights

BERNE (R) — Former Saudi Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani has received permission from Swiss federal authorities to reside in the Swiss Alpine resort of Crans-Montana, officials have said. A Justice Ministry spokesman said the Berne authorities had "agreed in principle" to a request for a permit Mr. Yamani made last February to settle down in Chermignon, a small village near the ski resort of Crans-Montana. The spokesman said it was up to local authorities at Sion in the Valais canton (region) to formally issue the permit. Mr. Yamani, who was dismissed from his ministerial post last October, made frequent visits to Geneva for meetings of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) during his 25 years as Saudi oil minister. He owns several properties in Switzerland, where he has a number of business interests.

Man stays 40 days in lions' cage

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A man who set himself a target of spending 40 days in a cage with seven lions reached his goal and decided to stay on for 24 days more. Mike Oosterlaak, 28, who works in a game park, is trying to raise \$50,000 rand (\$250,000) for a zoo near Pretoria to buy two gorillas. "He's been through hell," said Wayne Seale, curator at the zoo. "They have torn his mattress from under him, ripped three of his jackets and smashed his radio." He decided to extend his stay to 64 days to set a more difficult target for others to beat.

Eastwood films anti-drug message

LOS ANGELES (R) — Clint Eastwood made Nancy Reagan's day by joining her in filming the first of a series of announcements that will be shown in cinemas as part of her "just say no" campaign against drug abuse. Mrs. Reagan and the tough-guy boxer star, who is also the mayor of Carmel, California, told reporters at Universal Studios that the 30-second public service announcements would emphasise to children and adults that "drugs can kill." The 10 announcements, which are being produced by On Golden Pond director Mark Rydell for summer-time use, feature such celebrities as Dudley Moore, Bette Midler, Olivia Newton-John, Roseanne Arquette, Ally Sheedy and Jamie Woods. "The announcements are very dramatic," said Eastwood, who has starred in dozens of action films including the Dirty Harry detective series. "They will not only appeal to children, but also to many adults." Mrs. Reagan added: "Many children get hooked on drugs because their parents use them."

Lebanon plans 1,000 pound bank notes

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's Central Bank plans to issue 500 and 1,000 pound notes following a slump in the value of the Lebanese currency, a bank official has said. Hussein Kanaan, vice-governor of the Central Bank, told Reuters the notes were needed because of spiralling inflation. "The central bank has made the decision following high inflation and growing public demand for bigger notes," he said. Consumer prices are estimated to have risen 50 per cent over the past three months, while the pound has lost 30 per cent in international value since January. Mr. Kanaan said the Central Bank decree would have to be approved by parliament before the new notes were printed. The largest bank note currently in circulation is worth 250 Lebanese pounds (\$2). "I used to carry a huge bag full of 250 and 100 pound notes," said Laila, a Beirut resident. "They were worth the price of the shirt on my back, no more." Many people preferred to use cheques rather than cash. "It's incredible," said one banker Fadi Fakhoury. "Every day I have hundreds of cheques to sort out. No matter how much cash people carry around they are always short of it."

Pianist cleared of camera charge

LONDON (R) — International concert pianist Roger Woodward was cleared at London's central criminal court of attempting to pervert the course of justice, the Press Association news agency reported. Woodward, a 44-year-old Australian, was alleged to have hidden from police a camera which they said his foster son stole during riots in Brixton, south London, in 1985. Judge Thomas Pigot said Woodward left the Old Bailey "without a stain on his character" after the prosecution offered no evidence.

Thailand expects reduced opium output

BANGKOK (R) — Thailand's opium output fell to about 20 tonnes last year thanks to government anti-drug drives and bad weather, the Narcotics Control Board said. Opium output was 25.9 tonnes in 1985-1986 and 34.7 tonnes in 1984-1985, a spokesman told Reuters, adding that final figures for the 1986-87 season, lasting from November to February, have not yet been collected. Despite the cut in Thai opium production, expanded poppy growing in rebel-held areas of neighbouring Burma should result in an increase in opium harvested this season in the so-called Golden Triangle from about 600 to 800 tonnes, Western diplomats have said. The triangle, a vast hill area where Burma, Laos and Thailand meet, is the main opium-producing centre in South East Asia. The spokesman said poppy cutting by the army in the opium belt of northern Thailand destroyed a large part of the crop during the 1986-87 season.

Jailed tycoon dies in Taiwan

TAIPEI (R) — A tycoon jailed for 125 years after a bank scandal that brought down two Taiwan government ministers has died, the Justice Ministry announced. Tsai Chen-chou, former chairman of the Tenth Credit Cooperative Bank, one of two banks owned by Taiwan's giant Cathay Industrial Group, was admitted to hospital from jail with liver cancer. He was sentenced to 125 years for fraud and embezzlement involving the equivalent of \$325 million. The scandal broke in 1985 after rains on Tenth Credit and its sister bank, Cathay Investment and Trust Company, which cleared the equivalent of \$650 million from their vaults in three weeks. More than 50 Cathay executives were jailed in connection with the case and the politicians and finance ministers were forced to resign.

China permits national lottery

PEKING (R) — China has given permission for its first nationwide lottery since an ideological row led to a ban on most public draws in 1985. The China Daily has said the lottery to raise funds for China's millions of poor, disabled, orphaned or elderly is the only one to have won government approval recently. The newspaper said: "One billion tickets will be sold for one yuan (27 cents) each, the paper quoted a government official as saying.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHANIF
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B IS FOR BLOCKING

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

North	South
♦ K 9	♦ K 6
♦ A Q J 7 2	♦ K 10 6 3
WEST	EAST
♦ Q 9 2	♦ A 10 7 4 3
Q 2 10 5 2	♦ Q 8 3
Q 9 6	♦ K 8 5 4
♦ Q 9 4 2	♦ J 7
SOUTH	
♦ K 6	
♦ A Q 9 7 4	
Q 10 3	
♦ A 8 5	

The bidding: North East South West
1 0 1 2 2 7 2 9
Pass Pass 3 NT Pass
Opening lead: Two of ♦

The second entry in our lexicon of bridge plays consists of blocking an enemy suit. This hand was dealt in a recent rubber bridge game, and South was not aware of the possibilities.

Light overcalls are the fashion nowadays, and the preemptive power of the spade suit is such that we would not dream of censuring East for his action. A reasonably normal auction that included a